UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/890
4 March 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 20

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 3 March 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit the text of the statement I had intended to make at the resumed forty-sixth session of the General Assembly (see annex).

I request you to have the text of this statement circulated as an official document of the resumed forty-sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 20.

(Signed) L. KAYOUMOV
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Tajikistan

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ANNEX

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan at the ceremony of admission of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations

2 March 1992

Mr. Secretary-General,

Mr. President,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have come here today to express the deep joy and gratitude of the President, Parliament, Government and people of Tajikistan on our admission to this family of nations and our entry into the world political system.

We are grateful to each of the members of this great Assembly for its recognition of our country and for the warm welcome extended to us.

Mr. Secretary-General,

I should like once again to convey to you the sincere congratulations of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan on your election to the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations. In Tajikistan you are known as a wise and experienced diplomat who has done much to solve the urgent problems facing the international community.

May I join delegations before me in expressing deep and sincere gratitude to Mr. Shihabi, who as President of the forty-sixth session is directing the work of the Assembly and performing his varied tasks with a high level of competence and devotion to duty.

After a period of nearly 1,000 years, the Tajik people have gained their statehood through the establishment of the Republic of Tajikistan, and today have taken their due place here in the United Nations.

On 4 January of this year, the Parliament of the Republic assured the world community of Tajikistan's adherence to the ideals of the United Nations.

Today about 100 countries of the world have officially recognized the independence of Tajikistan, and I take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude and indebtedness to the representatives of those countries in this hall for their political support.

On 26 February of this year, Mr. Rakhmon Nabiyev, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, placed his signature under the Helsinki Final Act. The Government of Tajikistan is doing everything possible to ensure all human

rights and fundamental freedoms for its citizens, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

Mr. President,

As a Member of the United Nations, Tajikistan supports the great and positive changes that have taken place in the work of the United Nations, particularly as this world organization frees itself from grandstanding, doctrinaire attitudes and ideological confrontation between States, and is promoting the building of a new world order, defusing conflicts and activating its preventive measures and mechanisms.

At the same time, we all see that new dangers are emerging in the world, caused by outbreaks of nationalism and internal conflicts.

We are in favour of an honourable partnership with all countries. Our policy is a policy of positive neutrality. We are in favour of building security on the basis of cooperation and of pooling our efforts to create a comprehensive system of equal security for all, excluding not only wars, but also violence in general.

We are in favour of accelerating the process of disarmament and establishing a nuclear-weapon-free, non-violent world. Having declared the territory of Tajikistan to be a nuclear-weapon-free territory, we assume the obligation not to possess, produce or use nuclear weapons, and believe that it is impossible to allow, alongside disarmament in one area, the development of the arms race in another.

In its domestic policy, Tajikistan is beginning the most difficult task: the establishment of legislative, political and socio-economic guarantees, the implementation of irreversible democratic changes, and the transformation of the national economy along market lines.

We confirm our common desire to live with everyone in peace and harmony, to preserve the heritage and to struggle for the future of the peoples living in Tajikistan.

We proudly take our place as a new Member of the Organization and we confidently hope that, along with other Member States, we will play our role in strengthening international peace, progress and mutual understanding.

In this connection, I wish to recall the words of the great classic Tajik-Persian poet Sadi, who said 500 years ago:

"Mankind was born from one flesh
Each of us is a link in a single chain
If one link encounters misfortune
All the other links will preserve it."

The most important acquisition of human civilization has been democracy.

We reject any subjugation of our policy to ideological, nationalistic or religious doctrines.

Relying on the effective role of the United Nations and the Security Council, Tajikistan is taking part in the search for effective solutions to the Afghan problem and the normalization of the situation in the Middle East and in other regions of the world.

Allow me to take the opportunity of this solemn occasion to congratulate the States of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Armenia on their admission to the United Nations, and express the hope that their admission will have a beneficial effect on the development and strengthening of the Commonwealth of Independent States and will become a major factor of stability throughout the world.

Thank you for your attention.